

In the Claims

These claim amendments were previously included in the response filed on 21 August 2008 but are repeated here for completeness.

Please substitute the claims as set forth below in a complete listing. Language added is shown underlined and language deleted is shown in strike through or enclosed in brackets. The amendments include no new matter and are fully supported in the application as filed. Claims 3 and 11-27 are cancelled without prejudice.

1.(original) An isolated nucleic acid sequence comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or a degenerate variant of SEQ ID NO:1.

2.(original) The nucleic acid sequence of Claim 1, further comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or a degenerate variant of SEQ ID NO:2.

3.(cancelled)

4.(original) An expression vector comprising the nucleic acid sequence of Claim 1 operably linked to an expression control sequence.

5.(original) A cultured cell comprising the vector of Claim 4.

6.(original) A cultured cell transfected with the vector of Claim 4, or a progeny of said cell, wherein the cell expresses a polypeptide encoded by said nucleic acid sequence.

7.(original) A cultured cell comprising the nucleic acid sequence of Claim 1, operably linked to an expression control sequence.

8.(original) A method of producing a protein, comprising culturing the cell of Claim 6 under conditions permitting expression of a polypeptide encoded by said nucleic acid.

9.(original) The method of Claim 8 further comprising purifying the polypeptide from the cell or the medium of the cell.

10.(original) An isolated nucleic acid comprising a sequence according to SEQ ID NO:1 or a degenerate variant thereof that encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3.

11-27.(cancelled)